

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 02245 051258Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /019 W
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R 032100Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6829

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FOR A/SY/AND ARA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJECT: GOV REQUEST FOR PROTECTIVE SECURITY ASSISTANCE

REF: HICKEY/TELFORD TELCON

1. THE PRESIDENT'S AIDE, MAJOR BAJARES AND CHIEF OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PROTECTIVE FORCE MAJOR JOSE RENDON REYES APPROACHED THE EMBASSY ON FEBRUARY 28TH FOR ASSISTANCE IN RETRAINING AND UPGRADING THE PROFESSIONALISM OF THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL PROTECTIVE DETAIL. THEY PRESENTED TO THE CHARGE DE AFFAIRS AN OFFICIAL LETTER OF REQUEST FROM GENERAL ROMAN VALENCIA RAMIREZ OF THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.

2. FOLLOWING THEIR INITIAL MEETING WITH THE CHARGE, THE TWO OFFICERS SPENT AN HOUR WITH RSO TELFORD OUTLINING THEIR SPECIFIC NEEDS. THEY SAID THERE WAS CONCERN THAT THE PRESIDENT'S DETAIL WAS NOT AS WELL TRAINED IN ALL ASPECTS OF PROTECTIVE SECURITY AS SIMILAR DETAILS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, NOR DO THEY HAVE A CONTINUING TRAINING PROGRAM TO KEEP THEM UP TO DATE WITH PROTECTIVE SECURITY CHANGES BROUGHT ABOUT BY INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. THEY HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED THE TASK BY GENERAL VALENCIA TO DEVELOP A TRAINING PROGRAM AND TO DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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3. THEY SPECIFICALLY NOTED THE FOLLOWING FOR WHICH THEY NEED ASSISTANCE:

- A. MOTORCADE SECURITY
- B. PRINCIPAL, LEAD AND FOLLOW CAR DRIVING TECHNIQUES.
- C. ADVANCES
- D. SECURITY OF PRINCIPAL DURING PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

E. "CLOSE IN" PHYSICAL AND FIREARMS TECHNIQUES
F. RESIDENTIAL PHYSICAL AND TECHNICAL SECURITY

4. THERE ARE TWO DISTINCT PROTECTIVE SECURITY DETAILS WITHIN THE STRUCTURE OF THE GOV. THE FIRST BEING THE PRESIDENT'S AND SECOND, THE VIP PROTECTIVE DIVISION OF THE DIRECCION SERVICIO DE INTELIGENCIA Y PREVENCIÓN (DISIP). OFFICERS FROM DISIP ARE PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED PROTECTIVE SECURITY DUTIES WITH THE U.S. AMBASSADOR, AND ARE USED FOR ALL VIP VISITS TO VENEZUELA. DISIP OFTEN AUGMENTS CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S SECURITY DETAIL, I.E., PERFORMING ADVANCES. BAJARES WOULD LIKE TO NOW TRAIN A CADRE OF ABOUT 25 MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDENT'S DETAIL AND INCLUDE SEVERAL DISIP OFFICERS.

5. THE POST FEELS THAT THERE ARE POSITIVE ADVANTAGES TO BE GAINED BY ASSISTING THE GOV IN SETTING UP A PROTECTIVE SECURITY PROGRAM. FIRST AND FOREMOST WOULD BE THE PROFESSIONAL BENEFITS RECEIVED BY USG VIP'S VISITING VENEZUELA AS WELL AS CONTINUED EFFECTIVE TRAINING OF DISIP AGENTS ASSIGNED TO THE AMBASSADOR. SECONDLY, OUR SECURITY OFFICE HAS ESTABLISHED AN EFFECTIVE RAPPORT WITH BOTH PROTECTIVE DETAILS. THIS IS OF OBVIOUS USEFULNESS NOW BUT COULD BECOME MUCH MORE SO THROUGH TANGIBLE ASSISTANCE TO THEIR NEEDS.

6. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THE DEPARTMENT WOULD GIVE CONSIDERATION TO PROVIDING A TDY SY PROTECTIVE SECURITY TRAINING TEAM TO MEET THIS GOV REQUEST.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CARACA02245
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770077-0025
Format: TEL
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770398/aaaadihz.tel
Line Count: 89
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c5b0d7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SY
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3222709
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOV REQUEST FOR PROTECTIVE SECURITY ASSISTANCE
TAGS: ASEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c5b0d7be-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009